

## **Department of Energy**

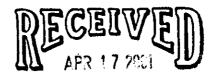
Richland Operations Office P.O. Box 550 Richland, Washington 99352

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Mr. Michael A. Wilson, Program Manager Nuclear Waste Program State of Washington Department of Ecology P.O. Box 47600 Olympia, Washington 98504



**EDMC** 

## Addressees:

MARCH 28, 2001, U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY LETTER ON HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT) BUDGET NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

We are writing in response to your letter dated March 28, 2001. Pursuant to Tri-Party Agreement Article VIII and XVI, Resolution of Disputes, the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL) is hereby notifying your agencies of its objection to the assertions of noncompliance noted in your March 28, 2001, correspondence and invokes the dispute resolution procedures.

The President's FY 2002 budget was submitted to the United States Congress today, April 9, 2001. It is the intent of the Richland Operations Office and the Office of River Protection to comply with the budget planning requirements of the Tri-Party Agreement, and we will schedule meetings to talk with you in detail in the next few weeks. RL looks forward to resolving these matters. If you have any questions, please contact me on (509) 376-9333, or Jim Rasmussen of the Office of River Protection, on (509) 376-2247.

Sincerely.

Clifford E Clark, Acting Program Manager

Office of Regulatory Liaison

RCA:PJK

cc: See page 2

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Administrative Record